SPECIAL EVENTS

BLACKBEARD PIRATE FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 3, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sunday, June 4, noon-6 p.m., Downtown Hampton. Join the swashbuckling fun on the Downtown Hampton waterfront. Immerse yourself in early 1700s Hampton while enjoying live entertainment, battles, fireworks, children's activities and more. Free. Grand Pirate's Ball, Friday, June 2, 7-11 p.m. will kick off the fun. Tickets \$35/\$40. Blackbeardfestival.com.

STEAMPUNK: VISIONS OF FUTURES PAST

Friday, June 2, 6-8 p.m., Saturday, June 3, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sunday, June 4, 1-6 p.m., Hampton History Museum. Experience the fantastical craftsmanship from an alternative Victorian era. Opening night is Friday, June 3, where you can see belly dancers, sideshow demonstrations and other curious amusements. Free. Hamptonhistorymuseum.org.

HAMPTON JAZZ FESTIVAL

Friday, June 23-Sunday, June 25, Hampton Coliseum. Top entertainers include Patti LaBelle, Jill Scott and Kem. \$75. Hamptonjazzfestival.com.

BLOCK PARTY: BOB ROSS PAINT NIGHT

Saturday, July 1, 6-10:30 p.m., Queens Way. Be a part of this fun outdoor paint party. Prize for "Best Dressed Bob Ross." \$35. Hamptonblockparty.com.

FOURTH AT THE FORT

Tuesday, July 4, 10 a.m.-9:45 p.m., Fort Monroe. Enjoy a full day of entertainment for the entire family. There will be activities and exhibits provided by NASA Langley Research Center in commemoration of their 100th anniversary. Fireworks show to start at sundown. Free. Fmauthority.com/calendar.

BLOCK PARTY: ADULT SOAPBOX DERBY

Saturday, Aug. 5, noon-5 p.m., Downtown Hampton. A Hampton first, the soapbox derby is gravity powered and fueled by the creativity of the participants. Drivers will ride down Booker T. Washington Bridge with the primary objective being fun. Ages 18 and up. Registration required. Hamptonblockparty.com.

HAMPTON CUP REGATTA

Saturday, Sept. 23-Sunday, Sept. 24, times vary. Fort Monroe. Watch some of the fastest hydroplanes in North America. Free. Hamptoncupregatta.com.

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DOWNTOWN HAMPTON BLOCK PARTY

Saturdays, through Aug. 26, 6-10:30 p.m., Queens Way. Spend your Saturdays rocking to local and national acts, including Slapnation, Living Colour, and Roosterfoot. Free. Hamptonblockparty.com.

MUSIC BY THE BAY CONCERT SERIES

Begins Friday, June 2 and then will be held on Thursdays through Aug. 31, 7 p.m., Fort Monroe. Listen to military bands play at Fort Monroe. Bring your beach chairs, blankets, and have a picnic. Free. Fmauthority.com/calendar.

MOVIES AT MILLPOINT

Thursdays, Aug. 3-Aug. 31, at 7 p.m., Mill Point Park. Bring your folding chairs and blankets for family-friendly movies in the park. Free. Hampton.gov/specialevents.

STORYTELLING IN THE PARK

Kicks off Wednesday, June 28, and then every Friday through July 28 at 10:30 a.m., Bluebird Gap Farm. Comedy magic acts, hiphop storytelling and pirates are sure to make this series a Friday morning staple for families. Free. Hampton.gov/specialevents.

FRONT PORCH MUSIC SERIES

Every third Wednesday of the month, 6-8 p.m., Hampton History Museum. Local bands such as Mason Brown and the Shiners, Muddy Gems and Dustin Furlow & Matt Thomas will keep you moving as they share their original Americana, blues and jazz music. Free to museum members, \$5 for non-members. Hamptonhistorymuseum.org.

VIRGINIA AIR & SPACE CENTER -STEM SATURDAYS

Every first and third Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Young minds can explore science, technology, engineering and mathematics with activities designed to inspire, excite and engage. Free. Vasc.org

READ FOR THE WIN: SUMMER READING ACTIVITIES

Tuesdays and Wednesdays, registration begins Friday, June 16 at all Hampton Libraries. The reading program kicks off with a party on registration day. Six-weeks of special performances and prizes to encourages reading and learning. Free. Hampton.gov/library.

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